GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1724
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2000
POLICY FRAMEWORK OF PUBLIC HEALTH
RENU KUMARI SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether America and India propose to prepare a policy framework in order to accelerate the pace of research in the field of public health;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas of application of such joint-projects?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In December, 1997, a Joint Statement to expand Indo-US Cooperation on Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases and Disease Surveillance was signed. The four priority areas defined in the Joint Statement were outbreak investigation, training, laboratory strengthening, and research. The Joint Statement has effect through December, 2002 and is subject to renewal.

An eight-member team from CDC, USA visited India in December, 1999 to address surveillance of Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases. The team had fruitful discussions with officials of MOHFW, ICMR, Health officials from States and other Indiar Institutions, and officials from the US Mission in Delhi and international organisation.

In June, 2000, a Joint Statement on Collaboration on Prevention of Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV/AIDS was signed. This is intended to initiate a range of HIV/AIDS and STD prevention research efforts, including behavioural prevention strategies and epidemiological and operational research in HIV/AIDS and STDs, including surveillance, SRD treatment and reproduction health.